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1994/04/02

BEIJIN 10345 020341Z PAGE 01 ACTION EAP-01

INFO	LOG-00 OASY-00 TEDE-00 NSAE-00 P-01 TRSE-00	ACDA-17 DODE-00 INR-00 NSCE-00 SCT-03 T-00	ACDE-00 DOEE-00 IO-16 OIC-02 SNP-00 USIE-00	AID-01 DS-00 LAB-01 OMB-01 SP-00 SA-01	AMAD-01 EB-01 L-01 PA-01 SR-00 RPE-01 2A 020342	CIAE-00 HA-09 ADS-00 PM-00 SS-00 PMB-00	C-01 H-01 M-00 PRS-01 STR-01 /062W
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O 0203412 APR 94 FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9166

INFO AMCONSUL SHANGHAI DEPARTMENT OF STATE AMCONSUL HONG KONG AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU AMCONSUL SHENYANG AMCONSUL CHENGDU

() RELEASE (X) EXCISE () DENY	DECLASSIFY IN PART
() FJIA cxemptions	B1.B6
BEIJING 0103	145

EO Citations

() S or () C () DOWNGRADE TS to () S or () C

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR TAGS: PHUM, PREL, CH

SUBJECT: OUR BEST SENSE OF STATUS OF DISSIDENT RELEASES

REF: (A) BEIJING 7248, (B) FBIS HK2903044494

ENTIRE TEXT. 1.

2. SUMMARY. MANY OF THE DISSIDENTS DETAINED AROUND THE TIME OF THE SECRETARY'S VISIT HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN

BEIJIN 10345 020341Z PAGE 02 RELEASED. SEVERAL OF THOSE STILL IN DETENTION MAY FACE CRIMINAL CHARGES OR ADMINISTRATIVE PUNISHMENT FOR SPEARHEADING PETITION DRIVES CALLING FOR RADICAL POLITICAL CHANGE. WE CONTINUE TO PRESS THE CHINESE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. END SUMMARY.

3. DESPITE REPEATED REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION, TO DATE WE HAVE RECEIVED NO REPLY FROM THE CHINESE ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF THOSE DETAINED AT THE TIME OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE SECRETARY'S VISIT. WE CONTINUE TO REQUEST CONFIRMATION OF THE STATUS OF THOSE CASES. THE FOLLOWING IS AN UPDATE ON THE CURRENT SITUATION, TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE.

REPORTEDLY RELEASED

4. THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN RELEASED (NAMES ARE FOLLOWED BY THE DATE OF RELEASE): BAO GE (MARCH 4), DAI XUEZHONG (MARCH 4), GAO HONGMIN (MARCH 3), GONG XINGNAN (MARCH 4). HAN LIFA (MARCH 4), MA WEI (MARCH 4), MA WENDU (MARCH 7 OR 8), SHAO JIANG (MARCH 3), WANG FUCHENG (MARCH 14), XU WENLI (FEBRUARY 26), YANG JINHENG (DATE UNKNOWN), YANG ZHOU (DETAINED AND RELEASED SEVERAL TIMES, MOST RECENTLY ON MARCH 14), WANG DAN (MARCH 8).

MAY STILL BE DETAINED OR STATUS UNCLEAR

MA SHAOFANG--REPORTEDLY DETAINED ON THE WAY FROM JIANGSU PROVINCE TO BEIJING ON MARCH 3. ACCORDING TO

BEIJIN 10345 020341Z PAGE 03 UNCONFIRMED PRESS REPORTS, THE POLICE HAVE TAKEN HIM BACK TO NANJING. HE IS AN ASSOCIATE OF WANG DAN.

ZHOU GUOQIANG -- DETAINED MARCH 3 FOR "VIOLATION OF THE CRIMINAL LAW, " ACCORDING TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, ZHOU WILL BE CHARGED WITH "COLLUDING WITH OVERSEAS HOSTILE FORCES," AND "DISTURBING SOCIAL ORDER." |

WANG JIAQI -- DETAINED MARCH 2 FOR "VIOLATION OF THE CRIMINAL LAW, " ACCORDING TO THE MFA. ACCORDING TO UNCONFIRMED

PRESS REPORTS, HE MAY HAVE ESCAPED FROM DETENTION.

YUAN HONGBING--DETAINED MARCH 2 IN GUIZHOU FOR "INVOLVEMENT IN A CRIMINAL CASE" ACCORDING TO THE MFA. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHAT YUAN IS CHARGED WITH.

WANG ZHONGQIU--A POSTGRADUATE STUDENT AND ASSOCIATE OF YUAN HONGBING FROM GUIZHOU WHO HAS ALSO REPORTEDLY BEEN DETAINED, DATE OF DETENTION UNKNOWN.

ZHAI WEIMIN--DETAINED ON MARCH 6. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHY HE WAS DETAINED. ZHAI WAS RELEASED FROM PRISON LAST SEPTEMBER, AND WAS NUMBER 6 ON THE LIST OF "21 MOST WANTED" AFTER TIANANMEN. HE IS REPORTEDLY BEING HELD IN HENAN PROVINCE; ACCORDING TO HONG KONG'S EASTERN EXPRESS,

PAGE 04 BEIJIN 10345 020341Z ZHAI SMUGGLED OUT A NOTE SAYING HE MIGHT BE HELD UNTIL AFTER JUNE 4 (REF B).

6. COMMENT: THE MAJORITY OF THOSE DETAINED

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HAVE BLEN RELEASED.

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CASES HAVE BEEN RAISED WITH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS; THEY CLAIM TO BE LOOKING IN TO THEM BUT WE HAVE YET TO RECEIVE A REPLY. ROY

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%*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a